

## Virginia Strategic Highway Safety Plan

# Connected and Automated Vehicles Emphasis Area Plan

#### **Priority Strategies**

- 1. Implement roadway improvements that ensure human mistakes and vulnerabilities do not result in serious injuries or fatalities.
- 2. Adopt an approach that considers risk when prioritizing locations for safety improvements and programs.
- 3. Recognize traffic safety as a public health issue and establish policies and programs that promote safe behavior and reduce crash severity outcomes.
- 4. Develop and implement programs that provide education and awareness to high-risk road users.
- 5. Implement innovative solutions and utilize current and emerging technologies.

#### **Emphasis Area Tasks**

- Review actions and select 10. Include a mix of what can be done today and what can be done in the future. Refrain from just selecting all ongoing strategies and focus on priorities. (Note: each individual's selections will not necessarily make it to the final list. We will identify those 10 that capture the needs of the group.)
- Combine or reword actions whenever possible. Example: Combine actions 1 & 2 *Use data to identify which population groups are at highest risk for not wearing safety belts and develop materials to increase awareness of the benefits of safety belt use among these low-use groups.*
- Apply the Action Test for each action.
- Determine the time frame, e.g., those actions that can be done in the next two years (short term); those that can be done in the next three to five years (longer term) and any that are ongoing.
- Identify any new actions that support the principal strategies and are not included on this list.

### **Action Test**

- What can actually be accomplished? (What is working today and ideas for the future.)
- Is there an interest in pilot testing a program or project?
- Is it feasible in terms of budget and resources?
- Are there policy or political considerations that require it to be included?
- Is there a way to combine or rewrite actions to result in fewer actions?

Action #	Priority Strategy	<b>4</b> E	Action	Time Frame
1	5	Engineering	Assess and explore emerging connected car datasets that produce estimates of safety surrogate measures such as excessive braking and acceleration for potential application in the network screening process.	Long term
2	5	Engineering	Conduct pilots of smart intersection technologies that can detect vulnerable road users and alert connected vehicles to conflicts	Long Term
3	5	Engineering	Develop and pilot advanced tools and methods to improve safety for the motorist and worker in construction and maintenance work zones, such as automated truck mounted attenuators, worker alerts, and advanced driver alerts of work zones	Long Term
4	3	Enforcement	Conduct a legal review and audit of the Code of Virginia to determine gaps in the existing code related to automated vehicles	Near Term
5	3	Education	Evaluate existing driver education material and safety campaigns to determine opportunities to incorporate information about connected and automated vehicles use and benefits.	Ongoing